

Docket No. 87359.1960
Application No. 10/617,702
Customer No. 30734



Reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Expedited Procedure
Technology Center 3600

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant in re of:

James BAICH, *et al.*

Serial No. 10/617,702

Filed: July 14, 2003

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Group Art Unit: 3679

Examiner: David BOCHNA

Confirmation No. 3730

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For: PIPE CONNECTING METHOD AND APPARATUS

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the final Office Action mailed October 12, 2005, to which a response is due without an extension of time by January 12, 2006. In view of the following amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the outstanding rejections and allow all claims pending in the application.

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.